

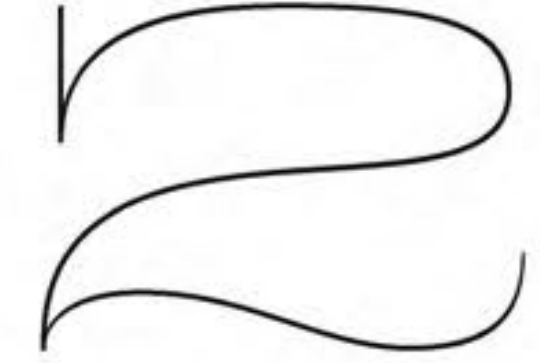
At the start of every journey, there is what you leave behind, and the suitcase you take with you. The one belonging to Bruno Aveillan came to life a little more than two years ago in Louis Vuitton's historic workshop in Asnières. "What sort of life will it lead?" the photographer asked himself as it took shape before his eyes. The answer was his wonderfully whimsical idea to record the travels of his suitcase, thus creating a parallel narrative with his own experiences as a globe-trotting photographer. From the bright lights of Hollywood Boulevard to the heart of the Amazon rainforest, from a shipyard in Slovenia to an expedition to the Galapagos Islands or the more hospitable shores of Lake Como, Bruno Aveillan's suitcase has already become a citizen of the world.

"Wherever I am, whoever I meet, my suitcase is always a talking point," reports Bruno Aveillan. "People may be curious, amused or fascinated, but it never fails to elicit a reaction, not necessarily because it is luxurious, but rather for its timeless, artisanal quality." With every new destination, the suitcase gains in stature and in romance, almost as if it were gradually becoming a character from a novel. Captured here in a fleeting reflection, there planted in a lush landscape, or even simply as an imprint in the Maldives sand, it is less a model than a vehicle for the mysterious, meditative atmospheres that are typical of Aveillan's images. His next stopover? The Far North. Before – or so he promises – he finally reveals the secret of what the suitcase holds. •



AGRA, India, March 2013
27° 10' N, 78° 05' E

"The timeless quality here reminds me of a Venetian 18th century painting, with the white marble that constantly changes color with the light. I took photographs as one of the men was putting the suitcase in the boat before ferrying me over to the Taj Mahal. As if it were a game between us, they struck a pose quite spontaneously."



WROCLAW, Poland, February 2012
51° 86' N, 17° 02' E

"We are in Wrocław, Poland, in the Centennial Hall, Max Berg's masterpiece of early 20th century architecture. The graphic power of the building made such an impression on me that I decided to play with its scale by setting my suitcase down in the center."

